



August 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

EMDYS staff are looking forward to seeing your children in our building again! We are excited to return to a more familiar form of learning, however, we want to ensure the safety of all as we return to face to face education. We want to assure you that we will return to learning in person in the safest possible manner. This requires strategic planning, training for children, and adjusting to a “new normal”. STAR Catholic division and the province have offered guidelines for our re-opening; provided in this document we have links to our reopening plans specific to our site. Our STAR Catholic school division recently announced a date change for our first staggered entry day. Please take the time to read through them at your earliest convenience. Below are some highlights for students and families as we reopen next week:

Re-Entry Plans

- Please visit <https://www.starcatholic.ab.ca/school-re-entry-info-for-parents> for the most up to date re-entry plan.
- Please visit [here](#) for EMDYS re-entry plan with school maps and building considerations.
- Please visit [here](#) for our Covid Update Student Handbook.

Staggered Entry

- **Grade 7-9 Only September 8th** -Safety Procedures will be explained to all students through homerooms and administration. **Grade 7 and 9 gather at the basketball hoop (south) side at 8:30am; Grade 8 gather by the playground (west) side of the building at 8:30am.** Students will need to line up socially distanced, with a mask, at their homeroom marker in the field. Staff will direct students where to line up.
- **Grade 5-6 Only September 9th**-Safety Procedures will be explained to all students through homerooms and administration. **Grade 5 gather at the basketball hoop (south) side at 8:30am; Grade 6 gather at the playground (west) side of the building at 8:30am.** Students will need to line up socially distanced, with a mask, at their homeroom marker in the field. Staff will direct students where to line up.
- **All students attend September 10th at their assigned door. Teachers will go over this protocol prior and maps will be provided to highlight specific entrance/exit. Students can enter the building at 8:20am-8:30am.**

Mask Use

- Students will be required to wear a mask in all common areas and in their cohort classroom. Unfortunately, our classrooms are not big enough to accommodate 2 meter physical distancing with our student numbers. Mask breaks will be provided for students under the supervision of their teacher.

Staggered Supplies

- We do not require all supplies for the first week. Homeroom teachers will provide guidance on this on the first day of what supplies will be needed immediately.

Online Learning

- If you have chosen online learning through STAR Catholic to start the school year, classes will start on September 8th. Please ensure you have signed up through communication that was sent by the division.

Cohorted Classrooms

- Students will be cohorted with a group of classmates for the year. All students will be directed to their homeroom lineups on their staggered entry day arrival. Staff with class lists will direct students which homeroom to lineup with.

Thank you again for your patience in this changing reality. We are blessed to have your children in our EMDYS community and we look forward to serving them safely in the 2020-2021 school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JR' with a stylized flourish.

Jordan Robinson
EMDYS Principal